

Theme B: Religion and Life

Creation of the World

- In the beginning there was nothing, the earth was 'formless and desolate'
- 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth'.
- 'God was pleased with what he saw'
- 'Your Lord is your God, who created the heavens and earth in six days.' (Qur'an)

Value of the World

- 'God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it'
- 'let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air'
- 'The world is green and beautiful, and Allah has appointed you His stewards over it.' (Qur'an)

Abuse of the World

- 'The Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it'
- 'Respect for life extends to the rest of creation.' (Pope John Paul II)

Use of Animals

- 'The weak in faith do not eat meat'
- 'Rise, Peter, kill, and eat'
- 'God loves even the sparrows'
- 'The righteous care for the needs of their animals'
- Parable: Cain and Abel offered gifts to the Lord, one gave vegetation and the other fat. God was not happy with Cain and his vegetables, causing Cain to kill his brother.
- 'All the creatures that crawl on the earth and those that fly with their wings are communities like yourselves' (Qur'an)

Human life

- 'So God created mankind in his own image'
- 'You were lifeless and He gave you life.' (Qur'an)

Abortion

- 'Love thy neighbour'
- 'Thou shalt not kill'
- 'I, your God give life, and I take it away'
- 'Do not kill your children for fear of poverty – we shall provide for them and for you.' (Qur'an)
- 'Do not take life – which Allah has made sacred – except for a just cause' (Qur'an)

Euthanasia

- 'Thou shalt not kill'
- 'Blessed are the merciful'
- 'Love thy neighbour'
- 'Do not take life, which God has made sacred.' (Qur'an)
- 'Neither kill nor destroy yourself' (Qur'an)
- 'No one can die except by Allah's leave' (Qur'an)

Death and Afterlife

- 'whoever believes in him (Jesus) shall not perish, but have eternal life'
- Parable of the sheep and the goats: 'Then they [goats] will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous [sheep] to eternal life.'
- 'And to every soul will be paid in full (the fruit) of its deeds; and Allah knoweth best all that they do.' (Qur'an)
- 'Garments of fire will be tailored to those who disbelieve' (Qur'an)